

We are consulting with our partners in the hemisphere and the international community to determine appropriate next steps.

Statement on Federal Compensation for Losses Incurred in the Bandelier National Monument Fire

May 26, 2000

This administration is committed to ensuring that all those who have been affected by the fire that began at Bandelier National* Monument are fully compensated for their losses. At this time, we are working with the New Mexico delegation to craft legislation that would govern Federal compensation and make available the funds needed to pay for this legislation. We are committed to working with the Congress to ensure that this matter is addressed as promptly as possible.

Proclamation 7314—To Modify the Quantitative Limitations Applicable to Imports of Wheat Gluten

May 26, 2000

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

1. On May 30, 1998, pursuant to section 203 of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended (the “Trade Act”) (19 U.S.C. 2253), I issued Proclamation 7103, which imposed quantitative limitations on certain wheat gluten imports provided for in subheadings 1109.00.10 and 1109.00.90 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTS) for a period of 3 years plus 1 day, with annual increases in such quota limits of 6 percent during the second and the third year. I exempted imports of wheat gluten that is the product of certain countries, including designated beneficiary countries under the Generalized System of Preferences (“GSP countries”), from the application of the quantitative limitations.

2. On December 1, 1999, the United States International Trade Commission (USITC) issued a report, as required under section 204(a)(2) of the Trade Act (19 U.S.C.

2254(a)(2)), on the results of its monitoring of developments with respect to the domestic wheat gluten industry. The USITC report notes that in the 12-month period prior to the imposition of the quota (June 1, 1997–May 31, 1998), 440,000 pounds of wheat gluten entered the United States from Poland. During the first quota year (June 1, 1998–May 31, 1999), imports from Poland grew to 5,004,000 pounds, or more than eleven times the amount of the previous year, accounting for 2.9 percent of total U.S. imports. The USITC report has been provided to me (Investigation Number TA–204–2). More recent data from the United States Customs Service indicate that in the first 10 months of the second quota year (June 1999–March 2000), imports from Poland totaled 8,965,800 pounds, accounting for 6.9 percent of total U.S. imports.

3. Section 204(b)(1)(A) of the Trade Act (19 U.S.C. 2254(b)(1)(A)) authorizes the President, after taking into account the report of the USITC required under section 204(a)(2) of the Trade Act and seeking advice from the Secretary of Commerce and the Secretary of Labor, to reduce, modify, or terminate an action taken under section 203 of the Trade Act when the President determines that changed economic circumstances so warrant.

4. After taking into account the information provided in the USITC’s report, and after receiving advice from the Secretary of Commerce and the Secretary of Labor, I have determined, on the basis that increased imports of wheat gluten the product of Poland have impaired the effectiveness of the action I proclaimed in 1998 under section 203 of the Trade Act, that changed economic circumstances warrant a modification in the action. Accordingly, I have decided to include in the action imports of wheat gluten the product of Poland, beginning June 1, 2000.

5. Pursuant to section 203(g) of the Trade Act (19 U.S.C. 2253(g)), I have further determined to provide for the efficient and fair administration of the quantitative limitation on imports of wheat gluten by allocating on a quarterly basis the quantitative limitations applicable during the third year of the action.

6. Pursuant to section 503(b)(2) of the Trade Act (19 U.S.C. 2463(b)(2)), no article

*White House correction.

shall be eligible for duty-free treatment provided under section 501 of the Trade Act if that article is subject to an action proclaimed under section 203.

7. Section 604 of the Trade Act (19 U.S.C. 2483) authorizes the President to embody in the HTS the substance of the relevant provisions of that Act, and of other acts affecting import treatment, and actions thereunder, including the removal, modification, continuance, or imposition of any rate of duty or other import restriction.

Now, Therefore, I, William J. Clinton, President of the United States of America, acting under the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, including but not limited to sections 204, 503, and 604 of the Trade Act, do proclaim that:

(1) In order to modify the scope of the quantitative limitations applicable to imports of wheat gluten under HTS heading 1109, and to allocate the quota quantities for the third quota year on a quarterly basis, subchapter III of chapter 99 of the HTS is modified as set forth in the Annex to this proclamation.

(2) Such imported wheat gluten that is the product of Poland shall be included within the scope of the quantitative limitations during the third quota year, as provided in the Annex.

(3) Any provisions of previous proclamations and Executive orders that are inconsistent with the actions taken in this proclamation are superseded to the extent of such inconsistency.

(4) Effective at the close of June 1, 2002, or such other date that is 1 year from the close of the action taken under section 203 of the Trade Act as modified by this proclamation, HTS subheadings 9903.11.08 through 9903.11.11 and the superior text thereto shall be deleted from the HTS.

(5) Pursuant to section 503(b)(2) of the Trade Act (19 U.S.C. 2463(b)(2)), duty-free treatment for certain wheat gluten that is the product of beneficiary countries under the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) (Title V of the Trade Act, as amended (19 U.S.C. 2461–2467)), is suspended.

(6) The modifications to the HTS made by this proclamation and the Annex thereto

shall be effective with respect to goods entered, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, on or after 12:01 a.m. EDT June 1, 2000, and shall continue in effect through the close of June 1, 2001, unless such actions are earlier expressly modified or terminated.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-sixth day of May, in the year of our Lord two thousand, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-fourth.

William J. Clinton

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 p.m., May 30, 2000]

NOTE: This proclamation and the attached annexes will be published in the *Federal Register* on May 31.

Proclamation 7315—Prayer for Peace, Memorial Day, 2000

May 26, 2000

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

For many Americans, Memorial Day has come to signify the beginning of summer, the opening of the neighborhood pool, and a time for picnics and barbecues. In the midst of these festivities, however, we can too often overlook the holiday's true meaning. Memorial Day was first observed in 1868 in remembrance of those who died in the Civil War; since then our Nation has set this day aside as a solemn occasion on which to pay tribute to all the men and women who have died in service to our country.

Throughout our Nation's history, brave Americans have donned our country's uniform to defend our freedom and uphold our values, often far from home and in the face of grave danger. From the battles of the Revolutionary War through the epic struggles of World Wars I and II to today's peacekeeping missions in a world with sophisticated weapons and terrorist threats, the men and women of our Armed Forces have served with skill and courage. While the challenges they face have changed with each passing year, their